

- John is writing to remind Christians of the Truth they were taught and by which they walk by faith ... False teachers rose up teaching things opposed to this Truth ... Such as claiming Christians can live however they want because it doesn't affect salvation ... For them, salvation isn't thru Jesus but one's own spiritual awakening that's attained thru secret knowledge and self-enlightenment ... They gave no attention to separating themselves from sin ... Instead, they followed teachings that were self-serving and stood opposed to the gospel teaching
 - A need for teachers – **vs4-10** good example ... Read the verses as they're meant to be read ... John is not talking about someone struggling with sin ... John is referring to those who continue living in sin unchanged – he's referring to the false teachers and those who follow them ... There's a difference between how they live and how God's children are to live
- Walking with Jesus – doing what is right, not living a life of sin – arises from what we believe, which arises from who we belong to: **2:29-3:3** ... He has: **3:5, 7, 8-10** ... Because we belong to God, this is what we believe about God and ourselves, and both shape every aspect of our life ... **Belong, Believe, Be Transformed** (discipleship pathway, foundations of disciple)
- **What is faith** ... **1) knowledge** – what's known about God, involves personal fellowship, **2) agreement** – we stand in agreement with what's known about God (sometimes we agree against our will), **3) trust in Christ** – the heart of faith; an active and abiding trust in Christ, the Object of our faith ... In Him is faith established and assurance guaranteed
 - Sin leads you to pursue happiness, desires, fulfillment apart from God ... Much of the sins you wrestle with can be traced to lies you believe ... Unbelief in who God is, what He's said, what He's done and able to do
- **Your mind needs to be renewed** – actively and continually ... What you believe must align with who you belong to ... **vs6** – you cannot claim to have a relationship with Christ and remain unchanged by Christ ... **Let no one deceive you** into thinking otherwise ... You do what's right because of who you're united to, who you've been born of – **2:29** ... **The Righteous One (2:1)** is your righteousness and gives you the means to do what's right ... **The Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the devil's work – 2Co4:4-6, CI2:14-15**
 - We've been born of God; His seed is within us; we've been united to Christ, His death and resurrection ... This is why we can't go on living a life of sin ... Why we flee from temptation ... Why we resist sin ... Christ is now our life ... Sin's power over us is broken ... We don't have to obey sin or give up fighting ... We don't have to be enslaved – ours is the victory in Christ ... What do you falsely believe that needs to be renewed
- **What renewing your mind looks like: Ep4:20-24** ... **Take off** the lie, the sin, the false desire ... Allow the Spirit to **renew your mind** with the Truth ... **Put on** this Truth daily; **put on** who you are ... **Because you belong, believe**